

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 13, 2008, and made Final, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing Amendment and following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, and 12-15 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 8, and 17 have been cancelled. Claims 1-10, 12-15, and 17 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph is respectfully traversed. The Office Action asserts on page 2 that “substantially concentrically aligns with and surrounds” is new matter. Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that “substantially concentrically aligns with and surrounds” is supported by the originally filed specification in light of the figures. For example, Figures 2 and 3 each illustrate that body 54 “substantially concentrically aligns with and surrounds” frame support 38. Moreover, paragraphs [0015] and [0017] of the originally filed specification recite:

[0015] In the exemplary embodiment, system 14 includes a first end 50, a second end 52, and a body 54 that extends lengthwise between ends 50 and 52. Body 54 has a centerline axis of symmetry 56 extending therethrough between ends 50 and 52. To facilitate minimizing movement of system 14 with respect to golf cart 14, system 14 is coupled to golf cart 12 such that body 54 is coupled against a substantially solid and hard surface 58. In the exemplary embodiment, to facilitate increasing the structural rigidity of system 14, system 14 is coupled to golf cart 12 such that *body 54 is substantially concentrically aligned in a lengthwise direction with respect to each respective frame 38, 32, or 40*. In an alternative embodiment, system may be coupled to any surface 58 within golf cart 12, including but not limited to, the windshield, a dashboard (not shown), and/or a steering column 59.

[0017] In the exemplary embodiment, *body 54 is sized to extend substantially circumferentially around a respective frame 32, 38, and/or 40*. Alternatively, body 54 substantially covers only one frame side 41. In a further alternative embodiment, body 54 extends across at least two frame sides 41.

(Emphasis added).

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-15, and 17 under Section 112 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,499,227 (Jacobson) in view of U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2004/0084495 (Rudeen) or U.S. Patent No. 5,934,530 (Antczak) is respectfully traversed.

Jacobson describes a sports glove drying device including a strap (35) that is wrapped about a pole (20) of a golf cart (15). Strap (35) includes a rigid first end (34) and a flexible second end (32). After strap (35) is wrapped around pole (20), second end (32) is pulled through a latch (70) to secure strap (35) against pole (20) such that first end (34) extends rigidly outward from pole (20) to suspend a card (40) therefrom. Notably, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest an apparatus including a first end, a second end, a body, and a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is coupled to a support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from the first end to the second end. (Emphasis added).

Rudeen describes a carrier device (100) suspended from an individual's apparel, i.e., the wearer's belt, such that various accessory items are accessible to the individual during a game of golf. Device (100) includes a carrier member (200) that includes an elongated, hollow body sized to receive one or more golf balls therein. The golf ball carrying body includes a glove attachment surface (210) that may be used to store a glove when not being worn by the individual. Notably, Rudeen does not describe nor suggest an apparatus including a first end, a second end, a body, and a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is coupled to a support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from the first end to the second end. (Emphasis added).

Antczak describes a golf accessory organizer that allows a golfer to carry and easily access golf items. The organizer includes a supporting member (1) that attaches to a golfer's belt or waistband via a clip (23). Supporting member (1) includes a golf ball bag (41), tee holders (5, 7, 9, and 11), and a hook and loop area (19) for attaching a golf glove (53). Notably, Antczak does not describe nor suggest an apparatus including a first end, a second end, a body, and a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is

coupled to a support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from the first end to the second end. (Emphasis added).

Claim 1 recites a golf cart comprising "a golf cart frame support having at least one external surface and defining a longitudinal axis . . . and an apparatus for coupling a glove to said support, said apparatus comprising a first end, an opposing second end, and a body extending from said first end to said second end, said body comprising an inner surface and an opposite outer surface, said body coupled to said support such that *a central axis of said body extends from said first end to said second end* and such that said body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds said support, said central axis is substantially coaxial with said longitudinal axis when said body substantially conforms to said at least one external surface of said support when said apparatus is coupled to said support, said body inner surface comprising at least one first fastening mechanism for coupling said body to said support, said body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly against said body such that a surface of the glove remains coupled against said outer surface in a mating arrangement when said apparatus is coupled to said support and such that said body inner surface is coupled against said body outer surface, *said at least one second fastening mechanism extending between said first end and said second end.*" (Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Jacobson and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a golf cart as is recited in Claim 1. Specifically, no combination of Jacobson and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Jacobson describes a glove drying device secured to a pole by wrapping a flexible end of a strap around the pole. In other words, Jacobson describes a glove attached to a glove drying device that *extends from a pole*. (Emphasis added). As such, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second end*, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's

belt. Accordingly, no combination of Jacobson and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 2, 5, and 6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 5, and 6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 2, 5, and 6 likewise are patentable over Jacobson in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 under Section 102 or 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,983,518 (Ellenburg) in view of Rudeen or Antczak is respectfully traversed.

Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer (10) that attaches to a golf cart. Dryer (10) includes a shaft (19) that is coupled at a first end to a clamp (20) and coupled at a second end to a hollow shell (12). Clamp (20) has opposing jaws (22 and 24). Jaw (22) includes a threaded rod (26) attached to a plate (28) and a knob (30). A golf cart frame support is inserted between jaws (22 and 24) such that jaws (22 and 24) are positioned adjacent to opposing sides of the frame support such that clamp (20) wraps around a portion of the frame support. Knob (30) is tightened to secure the frame support between plate (28) and jaw (24) such that hollow shell (12) is suspended outwardly from the frame support. Notably, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest an apparatus including a first end, a second end, a body, and a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is coupled to a support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from the first end to the second end. (Emphasis added).

Rudeen and Antczak are described above.

Claim 1 is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a golf cart as is recited in Claim 1. Specifically, no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer coupled to a frame support via a clamp such that the clamp wraps around only a portion of the frame support. In other words, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that *extends from a frame support*. (Emphasis added). As such, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second end*, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's belt. Accordingly, no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 7 recites a golf glove drying apparatus comprising "a first end, an opposing second end, and a body extending from said first end to said second end, said body comprises an inner surface and an opposing outer surface, said body is configured to couple to the frame support such that *a central axis of said apparatus extends from said first end to said second end* and such that said body is aligned substantially concentrically with and surrounds the support, said central axis is substantially coaxial with the frame longitudinal axis when said body substantially conforms to an external surface of the support and when said apparatus is

coupled to said support, said body inner surface comprises at least one first fastening mechanism for coupling said body to the support, said body outer surface comprises at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling a golf glove directly against said body such that the glove remains coupled in a mating arrangement against said outer surface when said apparatus is coupled to the support and such that said body inner surface is coupled against said body outer surface, *said at least one second fastening mechanism extending between said first end and said second end.*" (Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer coupled to a frame support via a clamp such that the clamp wraps around only a portion of the frame support. In other words, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that *extends from a frame support*. (Emphasis added). As such, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second end*, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's belt. Accordingly, no combination of Ellenburg and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 7.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claims 9 and 10 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 9 and 10 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 9 and 10 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-10 under Section 102 or 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0138953 (Passafiume) in view of Rudeen or Antczak is respectfully traversed.

Passafiume describes a golf glove holder (10) mounted to a golf cart frame member (12). Golf glove holder (10) includes a clamp portion (52) that wraps around a portion of body frame member (12) such that clamp portion (52) fully contacts three sides (12a, 12b, and 12c) and such that only a portion of a fourth side (12d) of frame member (12) is contacted by clamp portion (52). An adjustable strap (64) extends around a portion of clamp (52) to secure clamp (52) to body frame member (12). Notably, Passafiume does not describe nor suggest an apparatus including a first end, a second end, a body, and a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is coupled to a support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from the first end to the second end. (Emphasis added).

Rudeen and Antczak are described above.

Claim 1 is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a golf cart as is recited in Claim 1. Specifically, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder coupled to a golf cart frame member via a clamp such that the clamp wraps around only a portion of the golf cart frame member. In other words, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that *extends from a golf cart frame member*. (Emphasis added). As such, Passafiume does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second*

end, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's belt. Accordingly, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes or suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 likewise are patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 7 is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder coupled to a golf cart frame member via a clamp such that the clamp wraps around only a portion of the golf cart frame member. In other words, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that *extends from a golf cart frame member*. (Emphasis added). As such, Passafiume does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second end*, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's belt. Accordingly, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes or suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 7.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claims 9, 10, and 12 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 9, 10, and 12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 9, 10, and 12 likewise are patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 13 recites a method of drying a damp golf glove, wherein the method comprises "providing a golf cart frame support that includes a longitudinal axis extending therethrough . . . providing an apparatus that includes a first end, an opposing second end, and a body extending from the first end to the second end, wherein the body includes an inner surface and an opposite outer surface, the body sized to surround the frame support . . . coupling the apparatus to the support such that *a central axis of the apparatus extends from the first end to the second end*, and such that the central axis is oriented substantially coaxial with the longitudinal axis when the body substantially conforms to an external surface of the support and when the apparatus is coupled to the support . . . removably coupling a golf glove against the body using at least one second fastening mechanism such that the glove is directly coupled against the body outer surface in a mating arrangement when the apparatus is coupled to the support and such that the body inner surface is coupled against the body outer surface, *said at least one second fastening mechanism extending between said first end and said second end.*" (Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests a method of drying a damp golf glove as is recited in Claim 13. Specifically, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes nor suggests an outer surface of a body comprising a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove, wherein the body is substantially concentrically aligned with and surrounds a golf car frame support such that *both* a central axis of the body and the fastening mechanism extend from a first end to a second end. (Emphasis added).

Rather, and in contrast to the invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder coupled to a golf cart frame member via a clamp such that the clamp wraps around only a portion of the golf cart frame member. In other words, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that *extends from a golf cart frame member*. (Emphasis added). As such, Passafiume

does not describe nor suggest a fastening mechanism *extending from a first end to a second end*, wherein a body is coupled to a support such that a central axis of the body *extends from the first end to the second end*. (Emphasis added). Moreover, Rudeen and Antczak describe a golf accessory carrier coupled to an individual's belt. Accordingly, no combination of Passafiume and Rudeen or Antczak describes or suggests both a central axis of a body and of a fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove extending from a first end to a second end as is recited in Claim 13.


For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

Claim 17 has been cancelled. Claims 14 and 15 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14 and 15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 14 and 15 likewise are patentable over Passafiume in view of Rudeen or Antczak.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-15, and 17 under Section 102 or 103 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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